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Docket No.: 4495-092 PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Makoto SAITO et al.

Confirmation No.

U.S. Patent Application No. not yet assigned

Filed: herewith

For:

HINGE DEVICE

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application and no certification or fee is required.

Please note this is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the U.S. and copies of the references cited were transmitted by WIPO and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application and readily available to the Examiner. Therefore it is believed that Applicants have met all requirements regarding duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. Acknowledgement and consideration of these documents are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP

moeth My. Berner

Kenneth M. Berner Registration No. 37,093

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1111 KMB/iyr Facsimile: (703) 518-5499

Date: February 1, 2006

## ATTY. DOCKET NO. 4495-092 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE **APPLICANT** CITATION IN AN Makoto SAITO et al. APPLICATION FILING DATE **GROUP** herewith (PTO-1449) U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER'S FILING** CLASS **SUBCLASS** NAME DATE **INITIALS** PATENT NO. DATE FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation EXAMINER'S SUBCLASS PATENT NO. DATE COUNTRY **CLASS** INITIALS 4-189993A 07-08-1992 JP 8-193616A 07-30-1996 JP 1-255711 A 10-12-1989 JP JP 9-16095A 01-17-1997 OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 112745/1988 (Laid-open No. 35214/1990) (Laid-Open No. 35213/1990) March 7, 1990 Page 10, line 8 to page 11, line 20; Fig. 1 Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 75382/1990 (Laid-open No. 34779-1992) (Katoh Electrical Machinery Co., Ltd.), March 23, 1992 Figs. 2,5 DATE CONSIDERED **EXAMINER**

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.